Proper Care and Feeding of a Honda Battery

Currently Applies To: ALL Models

A Honda battery will give dependable performance and have a long service life if you take proper care of it. Here's some good advice to keep it in top form:

- **Maintain the electrolyte level.** If your battery has removable vent caps, check the electrolyte level on a regular basis and add distilled water when you see the level is low.
- **Keep the terminals clean.** Check the terminals and cables at least once a year for signs of corrosion, especially when the weather gets hot. If the connections are dirty or corroded, clean them using a battery post and terminal cleaner. This ensures a good connection and reliable starting.
- **Keep the battery case clean.** Use a clean cloth dampened with ammonia or a 50/50 mix of baking soda and water to remove heavy oil or dirt from the top of the battery case. Then rinse the top of the case with clean water and let it thoroughly dry.
- **Keep the battery charged.** If you don't drive your vehicle every week, you may need to charge the battery periodically. Lack of use takes its toll on a battery—especially an automotive battery, which is designed to be charged regularly by an alternator. Any unused battery, regardless of its chemistry, will discharge itself over time. And, if that battery is allowed to remain discharged, it will suffer severe corrosion of the positive grid, resulting in battery failure. The rate of discharge depends on the type of battery and the temperature it's stored at.

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